



US005144281A

United States Patent [19]**Peterson****Patent Number: 5,144,281****Date of Patent: Sep. 1, 1992****[54] HOOD ORNAMENT THEFT ALARM****[76] Inventor:** Norman E. Peterson, 1470 Harper Rd. #12, Mason, Mich. 48854**[21] Appl. No.: 571,105****[22] Filed:** Aug. 23, 1990**[51] Int. Cl.⁵** B60Q 1/00**[52] U.S. Cl.** 340/426; 340/568**[58] Field of Search** 340/426, 429, 548, 568, 340/668, 686, 687; 307/10.2; 200/61.93, 538, 543, 331, 332**[56] References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

- 1,131,405 3/1915 Merrill 340/426
2,571,534 10/1951 Brooks 200/61.93
4,882,563 11/1989 Perlman et al. 340/426
4,994,785 2/1991 Perlman et al. 307/10.2 X
5,059,945 10/1991 Scheele et al. 340/426

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

- 90107758 7/1990 World Int. Prop. O. 307/10.2

*Primary Examiner—Jin F. Ng
Assistant Examiner—Brian R. Tumm
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Richard C. Litman*

[57] ABSTRACT

A theft alarm for an automotive hood ornament which utilizes simple components and can be installed without removing any factory installed parts. The switch is contained in a plastic and aluminum housing which is mounted to the automobile under the hood. A lever extends out from the housing and contains a slot for attaching a ball chain. The ball chain is connected at one end to the lever and at the other end to the retaining spring of the hood ornament. The switch is connected to the automobile's battery and horn. When a thief attempts to pull the hood ornament off the automobile the retaining spring compresses and pulls up on the ball chain and lever. The switch closes and sounds the automobile's horn. Every attempt to remove the hood ornament is matched by the sound of the automobile's horn.

11 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet